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FOUND
DELICIOUS BISCUITS

MARGINAL COLUMN

By NISSIM REZWAN

THE dust has not yet settled on the battle-ground of inter-Arab politics, and the precise importance and possible repercussions of the events which have been disturbing the Arab world during the last few weeks are therefore difficult to assess. True, the shifts have been complete and far-reaching: the power of Colonel Nasser as, in the words of the "New York Times," "the dominating and dominating leader of the Arab nations" has been broken; the political isolation of Iraq has come to an end; the Hashemite and Saudian royal houses are reconciled; and the Egyptian camp, which until recently embraced Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Iraq, has been shattered. Yet there is something inconclusive about these developments, as they appear to have done nothing towards solving the basic problems of the area. There is no certainty that the realignment of forces will lead to the long-sought-after stability.

WHAT are these factors? The chief cause of the present has been the union between the forces of Arab nationalism and those of world Communism. This is a marriage of convenience, and the least little bit about the welfare of the other. The Arab nationalists really believe, it would seem, that they can cast their Communist allies aside as soon as they have accomplished their own aims—that is, as soon as they have obliterated the last traces of the West's influence in the Arab world and driven the Jews out of Palestine. The Communist forces, including the Arab Communists themselves, have naturally no sympathy for Arab nationalism or any other nationalism, as such. They consider nationalist movements and nationalist regimes as a road to Communism, and consequently encourage and defend these movements in their struggle against the "imperialist" until the time is considered ripe to deal the final blow.

THE flirtation of the Arab nationalists with the Soviets shows every danger of developing into actual seduction, and much will depend on the genuineness and solidity of the new anti-Communist alignment of the four Arab states of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Lebanon. Arab nationalism in the Arab world has been largely a negative phenomenon; it is a reaction, albeit too violent, against the West and the kind of regimes which the West had been setting up, and not the least of its attractions for the Arab intellectual is the fact that it has been a clandestine movement growing in an atmosphere where real freedom of thought was lacking. Consequently, as such a state of affairs could not prevail for long, a reaction against Communism was bound to come with the realization that its allurements were largely deceptive and that you can really go too far in the Arab reaction has now come. But it has come from the wrong quarters. Three monarchs in fear for their thrones, a Christian, a Muslim, and a Jew, President of a small and moderate republic can hardly be considered representative of the rising forces of Arab nationalism. Arab nationalism is therefore likely to continue to pose as the spokesman of the "liberated Arabs," he will go on acting as the champion of Arab nationalism, and singing the demagogic slogans of Arab unity. The reminders emanating from Cairo and Damascus that, though Arab nationalism is a positive force, Arab nationalism cannot in the end be vanquished, is no doubt based on the assumption that the Marxist element in Arab nationalism is a positive force, and that the Arab nationalist regimes even when these regimes pretend to side with Nasser. According to this view, therefore, no real loss has been sustained through the desertion of Saud and Hussein.

THIS view, however, contains a large element of wishful thinking. For with the exception of Jordan, where something may happen any day to change the status quo and where the one million Palestinians remain an unsettling factor, the new Arab bloc is composed of fairly stable regimes. Saudi Arabia is an autocracy where discontented intellectuals are not in plentiful supply; Iraq has for some years been following an enlightened policy of development and construction, encouraging learning and putting to very good use its huge oil royalties; and Lebanon has so far been immune to the current of disaffection and coups d'etat which have been plaguing the Arab world in recent years. Jordan, then, remains the weakest link in the chain, but the announcement that urgent Iraq-Saudian aid will be provided to Hussein, coupled with continued moral and material support from the two countries, may still save that regime from utter collapse.

Jerusalem, May 19.

Namir Meets Ata Directors, Workers Today

Jerusalem Post Staff
Delegations from the Ata textile plant and the Haifa Labour Council are to meet in Jerusalem at 6 p.m. today with Mr. Mordechai Namir, Minister of Labour, in an effort to break the impasse in the labour dispute.

The Ata delegation will consist of Mr. Hans Moller, managing director of the firm, and two of its directors, Messrs. Yacov Geri and Eli Kirshon.

Mr. Yosef Almog, M.K. and Secretary of the Haifa Labour Council, will head the other delegation, which will include several members of the Workers' Committee of the plant.

Under present labour legislation, the Chief Labour Relations Officer, Mr. Reuven Shinar, has the right to call a meeting of the three sides—labour, management and the Ministry (in this case Mr. Namir)—to discuss the dispute. The purpose is to reach an all-round acceptable solution.

Should this meeting and future ones, fail to produce positive results, the Minister will call upon the sides to accept "arbitration." Either side is free to accept or reject this proposal, but upon acceptance is bound by the decision of the arbitrator.

In Haifa on Friday, representatives of the Ata management at a press conference implied that excessive production had been the cause of the dispute, which entered its 10th day today.

Mr. Geri and Mr. Moller answered questions on many aspects of the conflict. The two men made it clear that they did not wish to take the initiative in bringing about an end to the strike proclaimed by the workers.

Balance Sheet 'Slender'
Mr. Geri contemptuously dismissed Mr. Almog's public statement that Ata's balance sheet had been "dressed up."

"That would mean in effect that we have been cheating," he said. "I don't want to discuss it," Mr. Geri said indignantly. "We have been honest and the auditors have checked."

Fulfilling the five demands of the Workers' Committee which the management would not take on the company, he said. Higher wages can come only from income. Last year the shareholders received an 8 per cent dividend, he said.

Production costs at Ata were twice that at similar plants in Europe. Wages accounted for half the difference, and lower productivity for another 30 per cent.

Turning to the strike, Mr. Geri said that as a board member of many enterprises, he saw every day at least six letters from workers' committees threatening strikes.

Two New Pipelines Ready By 1961
NEW YORK, Saturday (Reuters).—The President of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey said today that two 1,900-mile oil pipelines to the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean would be completed by 1961.

He has flown to New York from London after four days of talks there with representatives of U.S., French, British and Dutch oil companies.

Mr. John D. Rockefeller said that a 4,000-km. long trans-Siberian oil pipeline which is under construction would carry 18 million tons of oil per year from Irkutsk near the Mongolian border to Tiumany, which is about 150 kms. west of Ufa.

The report said work has been started on the Tiumany-Aktau sector and preparations are being made for two other sections.

Greece Charges Renewed UK Repression in Cyprus
UNITED NATIONS, Saturday (Reuters).—Greece yesterday alleged that British "repressive policies" in Cyprus are gaining momentum and imperiling chances of a negotiated settlement of the island's future.

The Greek permanent representative, Mr. Christos Palamas, called for early implementation of the General Assembly resolution last winter urging renewed talks between the disputants.

Israel Reaffirms Suez Transit Rights

UNITED NATIONS, Saturday. — In planning to exercise her rights to free navigation in the Suez Canal, Israel will not be influenced by Egypt's declarations of her illegal intention to invoke her "right of self-defence" to block any Israel effort to send a test ship through the waterway.

The statement was made by the Israel delegation today after an Egyptian official spokesman said in Cairo yesterday that "no Israel flag will be allowed to pass through the Suez Canal."

The statement said that the new Egyptian declaration shows that the international waterway is now to be managed under a "regime of deliberate illegality." He pointed out that the U.N. Security Council has ruled that Egyptian restrictions "cannot be justified on grounds of self-defence."

In the light of "this clear Egyptian illegality," the spokesman said that it was all the more necessary for "law-abiding nations to exercise their rights, and for the Canal to be insulated from the politics of any country."

Recalls Ike Statement
The spokesman stated that the Egyptian declaration brought to mind President Eisenhower's statement of February 21 in which he referred to "firm action by the society of nations in the event of Egyptian violations of the armistice agreement or of other international obligations."

The statement made yesterday by Abdul Kader Hatem, spokesman for Nasser, asserted that Egypt would not accept the U.N. Charter and in Article 10 of the Constantinople Convention of 1923.

Hatem said that "no power on earth will prevent Egypt from exercising this legal right of hers." He added, "Israel is only a puppet in the hands of imperialism, that bodes ill for Israel."

He said Egypt would invoke her legal right of self-defence to block any Israel ship attempt to pass through the Canal. He did not make any reference to non-Israeli ships carrying Israel cargo.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Egyptian Government said that a state of war exists with Israel, that Egypt has barred Israel shipping.

ISRAEL NOT SPEAKING
It was understood in Jerusalem last night that Israel would not speak in the Security Council discussion on the Suez Canal. Israel's policy is that the question of free passage concerns all nations, and not Israel alone.

Hula Bridge Debate Put Off To Thursday
NEW YORK, Saturday (Reuters).—The Security Council meeting called for next Tuesday on Syria's complaint against Israel for building a bridge in the Lake Hula area has been postponed to Thursday, it was announced today.

The Syrian permanent representative, Rik Acha, said that the postponement was prompted by the French decision to refer the Suez question back to the Council.

Japanese Protest U.K. H-Tests
TOKYO, Saturday (Reuters).—Police yesterday dispersed some 10,000 University students who had besieged the British Embassy in a massive protest demonstration against Britain's H-bomb test in the Pacific.

Altogether 350,000 University students throughout Japan held rallies.

The Embassy today agreed to receive a delegation, but only if the students first apologized for their behaviour yesterday.

"Successful" Blast
In London Prime Minister Harold Macmillan said last night that Britain's first hydrogen bomb explosion had been "successful."

At the same time, Minister of Supply Aubrey Jones said that the fall-out was "insignificant." A survey after a few hours showed very little contamination, even below the point of burst. Mr. Jones said, "A preliminary evaluation of scientific records confirms that the explosion was in the megaton range (equivalent to one million tons of T.N.T.)."

The Prime Minister's comment on the success of the test explosion, which took place high above the central Pacific on Wednesday, was in a message of congratulations to Sir William Penney, Director of the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment. He described it as "a fine achievement."

Indications mounted that Britain has perfected a "clean" H-bomb which can be pointed against a frontline enemy target without subjecting friendly forces to fall-out. It also appears British scientists are not far from developing an H-bomb small enough to be fitted on the warhead of intercontinental missiles.

This means the British H-bomb is far ahead of any super-weapon exploded yet by the U.S. or Russia. The experts said today, is the most significant of Mr. Jones' announcements.

First West German Jet Squad Initiated

MUNICH, Saturday (Reuters).—The first jet fighter squadron of the West German Air Force, ready for operation, was inaugurated at the U.S. airfield of Furstentumbrunn today.

Mr. Franz Josef Strauss, the West German Defence Minister, inspected the squadron's 25 Brumbar jet aircraft and handed documents to 26 West German Air Force officers.

Algerians Ordered To Intensify Terror
ALGIERS, Saturday (Reuters).—Twenty-six Moslems were reported killed and 11 wounded in Algiers in a shooting affray with French security forces after a French paratrooper had been killed last night.

In a clash in the Bouzouga mountains, south of Algiers, 70 insurgents were killed. The security troops took three prisoners and seized machine-pistols, rifles and hunting rifles.

In wild country east of Tiemcen in west Algeria, security forces, with air support, today killed 300 armed and armed men in a large-scale sweep. The action continues.

Security troops had found copies of a "general directive" instructing leaders of guerrilla bands to intensify their activities in the next few weeks, it was announced.

After Duboua was found dead in his Berne home the Government announced there were indications he had been involved in "Special Examining Magistrate Dr. Hans Waldner announced that Ulrich 'after original denials has now made a confession covering substantial points. He admits having given secret official documents to the French."

Swiss Police Inspector Spied on Egyptians
BERNE, Saturday (UPI).—A Swiss Federal Police Inspector has confessed to having supplied secret official documents to foreign agents, it was officially announced yesterday.

He is Max Ulrich, arrested on May 5 in the course of the investigation of a still mysterious affair which led to the suicide of Swiss Security Chief Federal Attorney Rene Dubs, on March 25. Ulrich was suspected of having tapped the wires of the Egyptian Embassy in Berne and passed information on to the French.

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Arms Talks Effort For 'Partial Accord'
WASHINGTON, Saturday (Reuters).—President Eisenhower's special disarmament representative, Mr. Harold Stassen, who led the U.S. mission to the five-power disarmament conference in London, told reporters yesterday that all participants "are concentrating their efforts to reach a partial agreement on a limited reduction as a first step, which would involve armaments, manpower, expenditures, and inspection."

Asked if he meant by inspection the Eisenhower "open skies" proposal, Mr. Stassen replied, "It is clear that there are open skies inspection within it. As for areas there is no agreement yet."

Adenauer To U.S.
BONN, Saturday (Reuters).—Chancellor Konrad Adenauer leaves next Friday for an eight-day visit to Washington, which he hopes will strengthen his chances of re-election to a third term. He is expected to raise the question of the British Defence White Paper and British troops with President Eisenhower, and to ask Washington's help in persuading the British to suspend or at least considerably slow down the planned second stage of withdrawals.

Chinese Congress To Meet Next Month
TOKYO, Saturday (UPI).—Premier Chou En-lai of China announced today that the National People's Congress will convene in a plenary session at the beginning of next month, Peking Radio reported today.

The Congress, China's highest government organ, met last during the autumn of 1956.

Piper from Port Sudan Lands in Eilat
JERUSALEM Post Reporter
Eilat, Saturday.—A brightly-painted twin-engine Piper Apache aircraft made an emergency landing at the airfield here this evening. It came from Port Sudan on its way to Eilat, and that port of call was Port Sudan.

The pilot, Mr. Mogens Rosendal, of South Africa, decided to land when he saw that he could not reach Eilat before nightfall. The plane carried three South African flyers and the wives of two of them.

Mr. Rosendal will take off tomorrow morning for Lydda.

Mao Tse-Tung Swam Thrice Across Yangtze
TOKYO, Saturday (UPI).—The Chinese Communist leader, Mr. Mao Tse-tung, apparently is a good swimmer despite being 64 years old. Peking Radio today quoted the "China Youth News" that Mr. Mao in May last year swam across the Yangtze River between Wuchang and Hanyang. He swam 25 kms. non-stop, going with the current. He swam the river two more times a month later, it was added.

QUEEN TO DENMARK
HULL, England, Saturday (Reuters).—Queen Elizabeth left aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia tonight for a two-day state visit to Denmark.

Saud and Faisal Say Conference Heralds New Epoch in Relations

French Navy Said Near Suez Gulf

WASHINGTON, Saturday (INA).—A French naval squadron has arrived in the Red Sea and may be there to furnish protective cover for an Israeli test ship, the Baltimore "Sun" has reported.

It said the reports about the French warships have been faster than they can be true to sea.

The "Sun" reported the theory that French destroyers may be there to see if any Israeli test ship is not stopped by the Egyptian Navy before it gets into the international waterway.

It was recalled that on September 23, 1956, when for the first time Israel tried to send a ship through the Canal, the Bar Gelim was stopped by an Egyptian gunboat some 40 kms. south of the Canal's southern entrance.

Saud Complains To U.N. on Israel Ships
WASHINGTON, Saturday (INA).—President Eisenhower has received a personal message from King Saud reasserting his intention to prohibit Israeli shipping in the Straits of Tiran, and protesting what the King regarded as U.S. assistance to Israel in the development of Eilat.

The King is said to have insisted that the Gulf of Akaba is exclusively under "Arab sovereignty."

Danger of Pushing Kings Too Fast
NEW YORK, Saturday (INA).—The tendency to try and push or entice Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Jordan leaders further and faster than they can safely go along the road they seem now to have chosen, any effort to force them to make a premature open break with Nasser or into formal military commitments or an independent peace-making with Israel, would compromise them fatally in the eyes of their own peoples and bring them up short, "The New York Times" said in a report from Beirut yesterday.

The dispatch mentioned as the second peril, the threat of new trouble along the Arab-Israeli armistice lines. New provocation by either side would only play into the hands of extremists. A new "martyrdom" of Egypt, for example, would require Kings Saud, Hussein, and Faisal to refuse to be drawn into their Arab solidarity with Egypt, and still, any inclination they may now have to follow an independent course.

It would also give the Soviets a pretext for renewed propaganda attacks on the Arab position, and forthright condemnation of Israel, that the West could not match.

Arabs Not To Resume Relations With U.K.
The Arab countries are not contemplating the resumption of diplomatic relations with Britain at the present time, despite the latter's acceptance of the Egyptian conditions for the operation of the Suez Canal, Premier Abdel Azzam has stated in Damascus according to Cairo Radio yesterday.

Assad added that normal relations will not be resumed until Britain has made full compensation for the damage caused in the Anglo-French invasion of Egypt last November.

Argentine Officers Demand Early Election
BUENOS AIRES, Saturday (Reuters).—The resignation of Army Minister Gen. Oscar Arana and Army Under-Secretary Gen. Leubusman Martinez was announced last night.

The resignation followed reports that a group of senior military officers had asked President Pedro Aramburu to call a general election within 30 days.

The President had earlier announced he planned to have a National Assembly elected in July to amend the constitution, and to call for a general election in February next year. This met with considerable resistance from some army commanders and political leaders who urged a speedier end of the present provisional administration.

They were reported to have asked that a revolutionary committee, cutting across army rank, are no longer necessary and handicap discipline.

EGYPTIAN-AFGHAN TALKS END IN CAIRO
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May Aid Jordan Financially
The seven-day visit of King Saud to Baghdad and his talks with King Faisal II "herald a new epoch in the relations between the Saudi Arabian royal house and the Hashemite family," according to an official communiqué released in Baghdad and Riyadh yesterday.

The two rulers agreed on a 15-point statement of basic principles demanding a solution to the "Arab problem" through the return of the Arab refugees, the closing of the Gulf of Akaba to Israeli shipping and the end of will sales from Islamic countries to Israel.

Nuri Blames Soviet For M-E Tension
BAGHDAD, Saturday (Reuters).—Premier Nuri Said said today that the destructive activities of international Communism are "causing the present tension in the Middle East."

He told a press conference that "Russia is continuing to use every possible, and especially illegal, method to control the Middle East." He emphasized that "the great majority of Middle Eastern peoples, except Israel, are anti-Communist. Even Syria and Egypt have given the Russians adopted by the Bandung conference are to serve Saudi Arabia and Iraq as a guide in their relations with all nations, the Communists are a danger to the peace of the world."

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The Kastner Murder (III)

The Road from Scheib to Shemer

By Lea Ben Dor

AROUND 1947, when anti-British terrorism was at its height in Palestine, a Government official once said: "We are going but we shall leave you the 'Jug' as the disident groups were known to outsiders, and they will go on trying to blow up whatever government you have. It goes to be a habit." He was only half joking. There were many here who feared the same thing.

Troubled speaking, LHY ("Fighters for the Freedom of Israel," with the emphasis on the fighting) had broken away from the IZL ("National Military Organization") in 1946. Despite the bitter struggle over the 1939 British White Paper, which threatened to strangle all further development in Israel, the Yishuv as a whole had decided to join the British forces and fight Hitler first, before returning to the problems on the home front. Hagannah men joined the army. Of the disidents, those who would not cooperate with the British at any price joined LHY; the others remained in IZL.

In all the confusion, vengeance and counter-vengeance of those days, it could be discerned that while IZL attacked in the main British military objectives, except for informers and others who had incurred their personal enmity, LHY from the outset engaged in individual terrorism.

Moyné and Bernadotte

In 1944 they killed Lord Moyné in Cairo. In 1945, they killed Count Bernadotte in Jerusalem. LHY split again, the nearest they ever came to their aim of disrupting the accepted Zionist leadership, for the total disregard of the Yishuv as a whole had decided to join the British forces and fight Hitler first, before returning to the problems on the home front. Hagannah men joined the army. Of the disidents, those who would not cooperate with the British at any price joined LHY; the others remained in IZL.

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MUSICAL DIARY

Israel Philharmonic Orchestra Special Subscription Series No. 1. Walter Susskind, conductor. 14. Handel, Violin Concerto, May 14.

A TOP-FORM performance of the masterpiece of popular appeal which is "Bartered Bride" Overture marked the opening of the new series.

Mias Hendel gave a fluent and quite convincing rendition of the Sibyllian Violin Concerto, the solo part of which, though very difficult, gives little opportunity to display a demonstrative virtuosity. Although free in form, this work is rather a symphony in which the soloist's stature is interwoven with the texture of the entire orchestra.

Anyone who has been connected with our Philharmonic for a certain period and heard at least a score of performances of Tchaikovsky's "Fourth" within a relatively short time by that unequalled interpreter of his work - Serge Koussevitzky - will find it very hard to accept any other interpretation without a certain degree of reserve. And so must it be in this case. Although Mr. Susskind also seems to show a predilection for this Symphony and made an outright effort to transmit his conviction to the orchestra and audience alike, we do not think that he succeeded. The playing was clean and adequate, it even contained a great deal of élan, but it still remained unconvincing.

AVIDOM

Kol Yisrael Orchestra, Meir Freudenthal, conductor; Meir Harik, piano (V.M.C.A., May 14).

WHEN Shlomo Yaffe's First Symphony received its premiere performance over Kol Yisrael just a year ago, it became obvious that a new personality among those of our composers who endeavor to create a typically Israeli language by amalgamating different trends of musical expression had appeared on the scene.

Yaffe's Second Symphony leaves the listener with mixed feelings. It starts off vigorously and inventively, quite promising, colorful and interesting in its orchestral treatment, though in my opinion the extensive use of the *Grazo* does not improve the score. The second movement, with its lean thematic material and its lack of development, cannot quite satisfy. The Finale keeps the drum section busy, but even the continuously changing test of three and four cannot camouflage the rather flat affinity of the main theme to Kol Yisrael's signature tune for its Arabic broadcast, Saint-Saëns' Ballet Music from his Opera "Samson et Dalila" is so representative of the kind of "oriental" music that was so much in vogue in the 19th century that surely Yaffe did not intend to awake such associations.

Meir Harik, the gifted choral conductor, appeared after a long lapse as soloist in the Grieg Concerto. Some more contemporary work might have been more congenial to his temperament and his musical interests than just this Schumannian-Lisztian Concerto, trivial though most melodious, the sentimental contents of which were rather overdone by the conductor.

Mr. Harik played his part adequately though not thoroughly convincingly. He

forms. Advice and encouragement, and perhaps more, was given to an ultra-orthodox group in Jerusalem known as the "Zealots" (*Iti Hakezaim*), who persecuted the non-orthodox in all manner of ways, down to slashing the tires of cars used on the Sabbath, and the pouring of sand into their petrol tanks. An abortive attempt was even made by the group to introduce a bomb into the Knesset during the 1953 discussion of national service for women. Subsequently a small arms cache was found and confiscated, and several persons arrested and sentenced. In the end, the affair was completely overshadowed by unnecessarily tough treatment meted out to the suspects at a detention camp, and the authorities walked more warily than ever with terrorists.

There followed a series of somewhat pointless bombing attempts in Tel Aviv in 1952. All of them directed at diplomatic representatives of Iron Curtain countries, and climaxed by an explosion at the Soviet Embassy on a windy night on which half the street lights in Tel Aviv were extinguished. This bomb resulted in a breach in Soviet-Israeli relations. None of the accused were willing to defend itself, and proclaimed the group a terrorist organization. A number of young people were brought to trial, and the leader of the group, Ya'akov Heruti, was sentenced to 12 years in prison. Another of the suspects was Yosef Menkes, whose piercing glance and pinched face have passed unchanging through a long series of terrorist hide-outs, revolutionary clubs and police interrogations. None of the accused were willing to give evidence against him. Despite grave suspicions that he had been involved, it was decided not to hold him on one occasion some years ago, when Dr. Scheib was supplied with a revolver by his friends, he asked them to take it away again. There might nearly be an accident, he said nervously, as he did not know how to use the thing.)

After the Bernadotte murder, which should no doubt have served as a warning, terrorism took some strange

style, but he must be highly praised for the way he deeply penetrates into the spirit of those works, displaying their charm and wit in the smallest details.

The interpretative programme pamphlet, written by G. W. B., was of great help to the listener.

French Cultural Centre, Haifa. Almásy, pianist, Ben-Zion, violinist. (May 13). Leclair: "Le Tombeau"; Debussy: "Sonata for Violin and Piano"; Debussy: "Sonata for Violin and Piano"; Debussy: "Sonata for Violin and Piano".

THE concert, arranged by the French Cultural Centre under the distinguished patronage of the French Ambassador, M. P. E. Gilbert, was a new experience to the Haifa audience, for the two participating artists are newcomers to the Haifa stage and their outstanding performance was a pleasant surprise.

Mr. Almásy is a member of the L.P.O. since its foundation and a former prize-winner of the National Music Academy of Paris. It is needless to mention his perfect technique or his mastery

Jerusalem Chamber Music Society (Municipal Association of Jerusalem).

Tenth Concert Saturday, May 25, 1957 at 8.30 p.m., at Beit Hillel, 3 Rehov Hillel, Jerusalem.

The Polishuk String Quartet Programme: Beethoven's op. 18 No. 2; Karl Amadeus Hartmann's "Carillon" (first performance); Cesar Franck's Quartet. A limited number of tickets available at the Bono Hagan Music Shop, Zion Square, and Mrs. Sapir's, 3 Rehov Ben Yehuda, Jerusalem.

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Colombia Overthrows a Dictator

By HALCRO FERGUSON

LONDON (OFNS). — THE overthrow of President Gustavo Rojas Pinilla of Colombia, who has now arrived in Spain, puts an end to one of the oddest and most unhappy episodes in Colombian history.

Colombia, for the first four decades of this century one of South America's few stable democracies, was already in a bad state when General Rojas took over by coup d'état in 1953. It was only because of this state of affairs that his action was possible in a country where the military had become traditionally dissociated from politics and coups d'état were thought to be a thing of the past.

Prior to 1944, Colombia had had 20 years of Liberal Government, headed by elected Liberal Presidents and supported by Liberal majorities in Congress with a strong Conservative opposition. Liberalism tended to vote according to regional party loyalties, rather than to ideological principles, and this in itself led

to a certain stability. But it also carried the seeds of trouble, since this traditional political equilibrium tended to make politicians a little indifferent to the real needs of the electorate. Even the Liberals, whose policy was based on 19th-century Liberalism in Britain, tended to ignore the economic hardship of the majority of the people, while the upper classes, including most Liberal leaders, were comfortable if civilized and often benevolent landlords.

This situation which proved intolerable to the French in the 18th century, could not long continue in Colombia in the 20th. In the 1940s, there arose for the first time a Liberal politician of importance who had risen "from the people." He was a mestizo (Coloured) citizen, Dr. Jorge Eliecer Gaitan, a former lord mayor of the capital, Bogotá, whose spellbinding demagogic oratory appealed as much to the public as it was offensive to his more sophisticated political colleagues.

During the Presidency of Dr. Alberto Lleras Camargo, a Liberal who took office in

1945 to round out the final year of the four-year Presidential term (his predecessor had resigned for personal reasons), a certain Dr. Gabriel Turbay was nominated as Liberal candidate for the coming elections. Gaitan set himself up as a rival Liberal candidate, and was backed by the left-wing of the party, and, privately, by the Communists. Basing his campaign on working-class resentment and xenophobia (Turbay was of Middle Eastern origin) he fought a violent and "crude" campaign in 1948. He was defeated, but he had split the party, and the Conservative (though moderate) Dr. Mariano Ospina Perea was elected, with a Conservative minority in Congress and a split Liberal opposition. It was an uncomfortable set-up.

Began in 1948

On April 9, 1948, a fanatic shot Gaitan in a main street in Bogotá. Why he did so will never be known, since an angry crowd reached him and killed him before the police arrived. But he set off a train of tragic events for the Republic.

As soon as it became known that Gaitan had died in hospital, his followers, believing his murder to be the work of Conservatives, rose in fury, destroyed the centre of Bogotá, hoisted the Red Flag in provincial capitals, and brought the country to the edge of civil war. To avert the Liberals closed ranks, and offered their help to President Ospina, who formed a coalition Government. But Colombia has never been the same since.

The Liberal-Conservative coalition broke down, and in 1950 Dr. Ospina was succeeded as President by the right-wing Dr. Laureano Gómez, a war-time Axis sympathizer and, paradoxically, a bigoted rather than devout Catholic. He showed from the first a tendency to bypass Congress and to treat all Liberals as Communists or heretics, and the guerrilla warfare which had broken out in the remotest areas in 1948 and simmered

each side the appointment of an arbitrator of its own and then to agree to a third arbitrator. The decision of the group will then be binding upon both. This way out of the impasse will save the Minister the unsavoury task of imposing a solution from above.

Mr. Hammarskjöld has not changed his spots, writes Herut, and after his visit to Israel, which has restored his prestige as an objective arbitrator acceptable both to Egypt and to Israel, he has been able to revert to his original function as Nasser's defender. By asserting that Egypt, not having signed Article 38 of the Hague Court Convention, is not bound by its decisions, he has once again reconstituted the dictator as the sole ruler of the Suez Canal. And Nasser is no doubt deeply grateful to him for it.

France Will Not Give In

FRIDAY'S PRESS

ACCORDING to M. Guy Mollet, France's application to the Security Council, writes *Hannadita* (World Aguda), "is the final test of confidence in the U.N." but it seems to us that the Council will prove impotent again in face of the Soviet veto. Israel's case is bound to come up for discussion, and the attempt to sidetrack it to the World Court is tantamount to a confirmation of Nasser's attitude.

France believes, and rightly so, that she is under no obligation to swallow the Nasser pill, writes *Davar* (Histadrut), just because certain circles abroad consider it necessary. Thus her application to the Security Council is like a lively breeze in a heavy shroud and throws into bold relief the fact that she is the flag-bearer of the Western world, on whose banner are inscribed the spirit and letter of international principles.

In its main leader, the paper notes that the Right's sudden zeal for automatic and immediate Government intervention in the Atia strike is somewhat suspect for it is these very circles who oppose official intervention during the Kupat Holim physicians' stoppage and the women's strike that threatened to cut Israel off from the rest of the world. Would it not be justified for us to conclude that their call for intervention is not designed really to halt the strike for the good of the country but rather to make the words seem intractable in their refusal to heed the Government call and thus divert the dispute from Atia vs.

the workers to the Government vs. workers? Thus they stand to gain a tactical victory.

The Minister of Labour, adds the paper, is not as unconcerned about the dispute as the Right would make him out to be and will, in good time, direct his efforts to a composition of the differences, but he will not play into the hands of these circles who hope to gain a tactical advantage.

Ha'aretz (non-party) concludes that there is no point having the Minister of Labour set himself up as an arbitrator in the dispute, since any decisions he may arrive at will not be binding on either side. In addition, his position will not be tenable with regard to either the management or the workers. Therefore, the best way out is to urge upon

each side the appointment of an arbitrator of its own and then to agree to a third arbitrator. The decision of the group will then be binding upon both. This way out of the impasse will save the Minister the unsavoury task of imposing a solution from above.

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since, broke out again, so that there was a virtual handiary over hundreds of square miles.

By 1953 the situation had become intolerable, and Rojas Pinilla stepped in. He was welcomed with a sigh of relief. He promised an amnesty to guerrillas who surrendered to his army, a removal of the Press censorship instituted by his predecessor, and a return to parliamentary government. His first promise he kept: the others he did not. The Press remained shackled, and Parliament was never called. Guerrilla warfare broke out again. The economy of the country was suffering badly.

Liberals and Conservatives pooled their differences and prepared to oppose Rojas on a joint platform in 1955. But Rojas, instead of calling for national Congressional and Presidential elections, as the constitution provides, proceeded to set up a nominated Assembly whose purpose was to re-elect him unanimously for a second term (also unconstitutional). When the party leaders proposed to meet and discuss their next move, he forbade them the use of any public place. The moderate Bishop of the city of Popayán gave them the use of his palace instead. He was backed by the Cardinal Archbishop of Bogotá.

By now not only the Church but the Army had had enough of General Rojas. This month's coup was the result. A temporary military junta has been set up to try to restore the country to normality. How hard their task may prove is shown by the difficulties of General Pedro Aramburo's caretaker government in Argentina, which was set up in somewhat similar circumstances. But there is one important difference. Millions, perhaps, of Argentines regret Peron. Almost nobody regrets Rojas, though he says he was opposed only by "a few priests." Peron did represent to many Argentines something of what Gaitan meant to underprivileged Colombians. Rojas, at the end, represented nobody but himself. That will give his successors one less headache.

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